

1 22. The cover of claim 17, wherein the open celled polyurethane foam of the joint  
2 filling material absorbs moisture when underwater to increase ballast of the pipeline.

1 27. The cover of claim 17, wherein the cover material is between about 0.02 inches to  
2 about 0.5 inches in thickness.

1 28. The cover of claim 17, wherein the opening in the cover material is sized to  
2 receive a mixing head for injecting the polyurethane chemicals and prevent escape thereof from  
3 the cover material.

1 <sup>6</sup>29. (New) A cover attached on weight coated offshore underwater pipelines at  
2 positions for protecting exposed pipeline joint sections of the pipeline, comprising:

3 a pliable cover material for attachment at positions overlapping adjacent end  
4 portions of the weight coat, completely enclosing the exposed pipe joint section, and sealed in  
5 place forming an annular space around the pipe;

6 said cover material comprising a sheet of material wrapped in a cylindrical shape  
7 and having overlapping side edges sealed together to form said annular space;

8 said annular space between the exposed pipeline and the cover material filled with  
9 a joint filling material of a high density open celled polyurethane foam, formed by reacting  
10 polyurethane chemicals inside the cover material; and

11 said cover material including an opening formed in the sheet for injecting the joint  
12 filling material into the annular space and allow entry of moisture into the polyurethane foam.

1 <sup>7</sup>30. (New) The cover of claim <sup>6</sup>29, wherein the pliable cover material is formed from  
2 polyethylene.

1 <sup>8</sup>31. (New) The cover of claim <sup>6</sup>29, wherein the open celled polyurethane foam of the  
2 joint filling material absorbs moisture when underwater to increase ballast of the pipeline.

1 <sup>9</sup>32. (New) The cover of claim <sup>6</sup>29, wherein the cover material is between about 0.02  
2 inches to about 0.5 inches in thickness.